

**FIREFIGHTER/OPERATOR**

(Competitive Class)

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS**

The class of Firefighter/Operator comprises entrance level positions in the fire suppression division of the fire department. Employees of this class receive training in and perform firefighting and other tasks such as controlling and extinguishing fires, operating fire equipment, performing rescue work, administering emergency medical care, driving fire apparatus, and maintaining fire department equipment and vehicles. Firefighter/Operators respond to all emergency calls and provide first aid and emergency medical care to the sick or injured at the scene. Employees of this class receive specific instructions for most duties and are directly supervised by a Fire Captain. This class ranks immediately below that of Fire Captain.

**EXAMPLES OF WORK**

Examples listed below are illustrative only. They are not intended to include all duties which may be assigned, neither are they intended to exclude other duties which may be logical assignments to this class.

Responds to all fire and medical emergency calls received by the department. Trains for, performs, and maintains proficiency in fire suppression and safety. Drives or rides in fire apparatus or emergency vehicle to and from the scene. Communicates with dispatcher and fire vehicles using two-way radio. Ensures a timely response to the emergency scene by reporting address and details to officer in charge, locating the address on a map, evaluating navigational problems and taking shortest route available. Observes the burning structure and fireground to determine the most efficient method of attack. Evaluates the potential effects of environmental conditions on the fire. Determines if a position is safe for firefighting crews, positions apparatus, and determines the length and number of hose lines necessary for fire suppression. Dismounts apparatus, pulls hose from bed and connects hose lines to hydrant or other water supply source. Primes and operates pumper to supply adequate pressure to the nozzle. Operates and controls portable or fixed water streams in order to extinguish fire and protect exposures. Inspects charged hose line for kinks and repairs or replaces burst hose sections. Performs automatic sprinkler and standpipe system operations. Operates appropriate class of fire extinguisher. Observes and responds to changing fireground conditions, notifying officer in charge. Maintains awareness of other firefighters' efforts and assists them to ensure a safe and coordinated performance.

Notifies occupants or neighbors to vacate premises due to safety concerns. Maintains limited crowd and traffic control at the scene until police arrive. Performs search and rescue operations. Moves

heavy objects, cuts open vehicles or machinery, and removes electrical wires in order to remove people from life-threatening situations. Carries or assists victims away from danger and examines them for signs of injury and medical alert tag. Administers basic or advanced first aid as well as emergency medical care to victims at the scene or on the way to the hospital. Notifies dispatcher of need for additional medical help.

Performs salvage and overhaul. Reads and recognizes HAZMAT symbols. Acts to contain hazardous material spill or control spread under direction of superior officer. Locates and operates shut-off valves for gas, electricity, oil, and water in buildings to reduce hazard. Recognizes signs of arson, observes spectators for suspicious behavior, notifies officer in charge, and preserves evidence. Secures burned building to protect from weather and vandalism. Extinguishes or controls grass and shrub fires. Conducts prevention inspections of residences in the area.

Cleans, dries, tests, inspects, and properly secures any assigned fire fighting tools or equipment. Tests communication equipment and performs daily radio checks. Performs periodic tests of apparatus pumping capacity and pressure. Maintains inventory of tools and equipment on apparatus. Inspects hydrants for defects and performs routine maintenance, flushing periodically as needed. Provides for the proper maintenance and upkeep of the station and grounds.

Participates in training and drills, and learns and maintains proficiency in department equipment, tools, and the principles of fire behavior. Participates in critical evaluations of departmental response to each fire. Provides occasional informal training for new employees. Practices with apparatus and equipment under supervision. Studies direct routes, location of streets, water mains and hydrants in response area. Studies laws and documents related to emergency medical services. Ensures that accurate emergency medical services records are maintained. Completes assigned forms and records. Writes reports, and creates and writes preplans. Makes entries in daily log for the department. Reports to work well-groomed, on-time and in proper attire. Maintains satisfactory interpersonal relationships with other department members. Receives telephone calls, assists visitors and conducts tours at the fire station.

Performs related duties as assigned.

#### **QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

Unless otherwise specified, all requirements must be met by the filing deadline for application for admission to the examination.

Must meet all requirements of the Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service Law, including being a citizen of the United States and of legal age.

After offer of employment, but before beginning work in this class,

must pass a physical examination, the selection and administration of which shall be authorized by the Appointing Authority, designed to demonstrate good health and physical fitness sufficient to perform the essential duties of the position, with or without accommodation.

Applicant must possess one of the following: high school diploma, high school equivalency certificate, high school transcript, affidavit from the issuing high school, associate's or bachelor's degree, or college transcript, any one of which must indicate that graduation has occurred or a degree awarded. A certification of completion shall not be sufficient to substitute for a diploma or equivalency certificate.

Must have a valid driver's license.

Must not be less than eighteen (18) years of age.